

Carefully read the passage. Then complete the task that follows.

The Legend of the Black Fish: based on a Native American Legend

Long ago, a young man named Natsilane lived on the Pacific Northwest Coast. Natsilane had many talents, including woodcarving. Some people were jealous of Natsilane's talents because they thought he would be chosen as the next chief.

Natsilane could carve just about anything out of any type of material including rock and wood. His favorite material to work with was wood, and his wood carvings were of people, plants, and animals. Animals were his favorite to carve. He often went into the forest to observe animals so his carvings would be as realistic and lifelike as possible.

One day, Natsilane decided he wanted to observe water animals more closely than from just standing on the shore. He took a canoe and traveled out into the water. Soon he saw some fish swimming next to his canoe. Then he saw a turtle, which he followed until he was close to an island. Natsilane decided to stop at the island and explore it. When the canoe was close enough to the shore, Natsilane leaped out of the canoe and swam to the island's shore.

Natsilane started to explore the island. He was amazed by the many different plants and birds that lived there. Natsilane lost track of the time and soon realized the Sun was beginning to set. Soon it would be dark. When he returned to the shore, his canoe was gone. He decided he had better stay on the island overnight and try to swim home in the morning.

Eventually, Natsilane fell asleep. He awoke when he heard his name. "Natsilane," called the voice.

Natsilane looked around but saw no one. He thought he was just hearing things, until once again he heard his name. This time Natsilane saw a sea lion that seemed to be talking to him.

"Natsilane, I need your help. I have an injured flipper. If you help me, I will return you safely to your home," said the sea lion.

Natsilane healed the sea lion's flipper, and the sea lion safely returned Natsilane home, just as promised.

After he returned home, Natsilane began carving a large black fish from wood. After he finished the carving, Natsilane released it into the water, wishing that it would always be helpful and friendly to people just as the sea lion had been to him. To Natsilane's surprise, his carved black fish came to life!

The black fish was very friendly and stayed in the water where Natsilane lived. Natsilane visited the black fish every day. He and his friends often swam with the big black fish.

This is how the first black fish, or orca whale, came to be. And this is why orcas living in the wild do not harm humans.

The passage focuses on creatures from two different species helping each other. **Write an essay explaining how the passage shows a way in which people and animals help each other.** Use evidence from the passage to support your essay.

Use the Writer's Checklist to help you write your essay. You may reference the passage as often as you need.

Writer's Checklist

- _____ Does my essay have a clear idea that is connected to the writing prompt?
- _____ Does my essay show an understanding of the passage?
- _____ Do I stay focused on the writing prompt?
- _____ Do I support my ideas with strong evidence from the passage?
- _____ Do I need to take out evidence that DOES NOT support my ideas?
- _____ Is my response well-organized?
- _____ Have I used precise language and smooth transitions in my essay?
- _____ Have I spelled, punctuated, and capitalized my writing to help readers understand it?